

which is the subject of a decision of the U.S. Court of International Trade shall be reliquidated in accordance with the judgment order thereon at the expiration of 60 days from the date of the decision, unless an appeal or motion for a rehearing is filed. However, entries which are the subject of decisions of the court following a decision of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit which involve the same issue, or which are based on submission of an agreed statement of fact, may be reliquidated immediately upon receipt of the judgment orders from the U.S. Court of International Trade.

(b) *Decision of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.* Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, an entry covering merchandise which is the subject of a decision of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit shall be reliquidated at the expiration of 90 days from the date of entry of decision by that court and only upon receipt of the judgment order from the U.S. Court of International Trade. However, no such entry shall be reliquidated pursuant to such order if a petition for certiorari is taken to the Supreme Court.

(c) *Waiver of right of appeal.* Upon receipt of a letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division, Department of Justice, signed by the Chief, Customs Section, advising that no appeal will be taken from a decision of the U.S. Court of International Trade or that it has been determined that no petition for certiorari shall be filed in the Supreme Court to review a decision of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, any entry or entries covered by such decision may be reliquidated pursuant to the judgment of the U.S. Court of International Trade prior to the expiration of the times specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(Sec. 514, 46 Stat. 734, as amended; 19 U.S.C. 1514)

[T.D. 70-181, 35 FR 13433, Aug. 22, 1970, as amended by T.D. 85-90, 50 FR 21430, May 24, 1985]

PART 177—ADMINISTRATIVE RULINGS

Sec.
177.0 Scope.

Subpart A—General Ruling Procedure

- 177.1 General ruling practice and definitions.
- 177.2 Submission of ruling requests.
- 177.3 Nonconforming requests for rulings.
- 177.4 Oral discussion of issues.
- 177.5 Change in status of transaction.
- 177.6 Withdrawal of ruling requests.
- 177.7 Situations in which no ruling will be issued.
- 177.8 Issuance of rulings.
- 177.9 Effect of ruling letters.
- 177.10 Publication of decisions.
- 177.11 Requests for advice by field offices.
- 177.12 Modification or revocation of interpretive rulings, protest review decisions, and previous treatment of substantially identical transactions.
- 177.13 Inconsistent customs decisions.

Subpart B—Government Procurement; Country-of-Origin Determinations

- 177.21 Applicability.
- 177.22 Definitions.
- 177.23 Who may request a country-of-origin advisory ruling or final determination.
- 177.24 By whom request is filed.
- 177.25 Form and content of request.
- 177.26 Where request filed.
- 177.27 Oral discussion of issues.
- 177.28 Issuance of advisory rulings and final determinations.
- 177.29 Publication of notice of final determinations.
- 177.30 Review of final determinations.
- 177.31 Reexamination of final determinations.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; 19 U.S.C. 66, 1202 (General Note 3(i), Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States), 1502, 1624, 1625.

§ 177.0 Scope.

This part relates to the issuance of rulings to importers and other interested persons by the United States Customs Service, other than advance rulings under Article 509 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (see subpart I of part 181 of this chapter). It describes the situations in which a ruling may be requested, the procedures to be followed in requesting a ruling, the conditions under which a ruling will be issued, the effect of a ruling when it is issued, and the publication of rulings in the Customs Bulletin. The rulings issued under the provisions of this part will usually be prospective in application and, consequently, will usually not relate to specific matters or situations presently or previously under consideration by any Customs

Service field office. Accordingly, the rulings requested under the provisions of this part should be distinguished from the administrative rulings, determinations, or decisions which may be requested under procedures set forth elsewhere in this chapter, including, but not limited to, those set forth in part 12 (relating to submissions of proof of admissibility of articles detained under section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307)), part 103 (relating to disclosure of information in Customs files), part 133 (relating to disputed claims of piratical copying of copyrighted matter), subpart C of part 152 (relating to determinations concerning the dutiable value of merchandise by Customs field officers), part 153 (relating to enforcement of the Anti-dumping Act, 1921, as amended), part 159 (insofar as it relates to countervailing duties), part 171 (relating to fines, penalties, and forfeitures), part 172 (relating to liquidated damages), part 174 (relating to protests), and part 175 (relating to petitions filed by American manufacturers, producers, or wholesalers pursuant to section 516 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended). Nor do the provisions of part 177 apply to requests for decisions of an operational, administrative, or investigative nature which are properly within the cognizance of a Customs Headquarters Office other than the Office of Regulations and Rulings.

[T.D. 80-285, 45 FR 80103, Dec. 3, 1980, as amended by T.D. 84-149, 49 FR 28699, July 16, 1984; T.D. 89-74, 54 FR 31515, July 31, 1989; T.D. 94-1, 58 FR 69473, Dec. 30, 1993]

Subpart A—General Ruling Procedure

§ 177.1 General ruling practice and definitions.

(a) *The issuance of rulings generally—*

(1) *Prospective transactions.* It is in the interest of the sound administration of the Customs and related laws that persons engaging in any transaction affected by those laws fully understand the consequences of that transaction prior to its consummation. For this reason, the Customs Service will give full and careful consideration to written requests from importers and other interested parties for rulings or infor-

mation setting forth, with respect to a specifically described transaction, a definitive interpretation of applicable law, or other appropriate information. Generally, a ruling may be requested under the provisions of this part only with respect to prospective transactions—that is, transactions which are not already pending before a Customs Service office by reason of arrival, entry, or otherwise.

(2) *Current or completed transactions—*
(i) *Current transactions.* A question arising in connection with a Customs transaction already before a Customs Service office will normally be resolved by that office in accordance with the principles and precedents previously announced by the Headquarters Office. If such a question cannot be resolved on the basis of clearly established rules set forth in the Customs and related laws, or in the regulations thereunder, or in applicable Treasury Decisions, rulings, opinions, or court decisions published in the Customs Bulletin, that office may be requested to forward the question to the Headquarters Office for consideration, as more fully described in § 177.11.

(ii) *Completed transactions.* A question arising in connection with an entry of merchandise which has been liquidated, or in connection with any other completed Customs transaction, may not be the subject of a ruling request.

(b) *Oral advice.* The Customs Service will not issue rulings in response to oral requests. Oral opinions or advice of Customs Service personnel are not binding on the Customs Service. However, oral inquiries may be made to Customs Service offices regarding existing rulings, the scope of such rulings, the types of transactions with respect to which the Customs Service will issue rulings, the scope of the rulings which may be issued, or the procedures to be followed in submitting ruling requests, as described in this part.

(c) *Who may request a ruling.* Except as otherwise provided in subpart I of part 181 of this chapter, a ruling may be requested under this part by any person who, as an importer or exporter of merchandise, or otherwise, has a direct and demonstrable interest in the question or questions presented in the ruling request, or by the authorized